



**Director of
Central
Intelligence**

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National Intelligence Daily (Cable)

3 August 1982

State Dept. review completed

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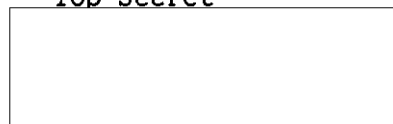
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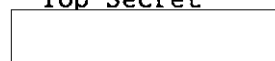


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ISRAEL-LEBANON: Consolidating Positions

(Information as of 0300 EDT)

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//Israeli and Palestinian forces yesterday exchanged a low level of fire in Beirut.//

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Soviet Reactions

The Soviets responded to the breakdown in the cease-fire in Beirut over the weekend by issuing a TASS statement on Sunday and by publicizing yesterday a message from President Brezhnev to President Reagan. The TASS statement--similar to the one on 7 June--called on the UN Security Council to impose sanctions against Israel. Brezhnev, in his second publicized message to Washington on the crisis, appealed to the US to restrain Israeli attacks against West Beirut.

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Comment: This most recent response largely repeats earlier Soviet themes. Moscow's immediate objective apparently is to demonstrate to the Arabs that the USSR remains actively involved in the situation and to portray the US as responsible for any further Israeli military action.

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IRAN-IRAQ: Military Lull Continues

(Information as of 2300 EDT)

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//There has been no major fighting along the Al Basrah front since last week.// [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Each side has officially claimed that it was shelling the other's residential areas in Al Basrah and in Abadan.// [REDACTED]

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Iran Moves Against Dissidents

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Iran yesterday began a new crackdown on dissidents. The leftist Mujahedin was the primary target of raids on 20 dissident sites, in which 65 people were killed or captured. Since last summer, the Iranian Government claims it has executed 3,000 dissidents. [REDACTED]

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Explosion in Baghdad

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[REDACTED] the US Interests Section in Baghdad attributes the explosion that ripped the Ministry of Planning building on Sunday either to plotters with a Syrian connection or to members of the Shia opposition Dawa Party. [REDACTED]

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POLAND: Widespread Sentiment for General Strike

The apparent support of Polish workers for a major demonstration of opposition raises the chances for renewed violence this month. [redacted]

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An official of Solidarity's Temporary Coordinating Committee told the US Embassy yesterday the union leadership believes it has no choice but to call for 15 days of "heightened union visibility," culminating in a peaceful mass demonstration against the regime on 31 August. He said the underground leaders believe they are caught between Premier Jaruzelski's tough stand and the growing antiregime sentiment among workers and that they have to respond or risk losing their credibility. [redacted]

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CHINA-USSR: Relations Under Review

Comment: Relations with the Soviets almost certainly are on the agenda of the current meetings preparing for China's 12th Party Congress

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Since late last year, Beijing has undertaken a number of athletic, academic, and other nonpolitical exchanges with Moscow designed to reduce tensions in ways that do not undercut its fundamental opposition to the USSR on a broad range of bilateral and international issues. These steps also are intended to deepen US concern about future developments in Sino-Soviet relations.

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The Chinese, at the same time, have refused to respond to Soviet proposals to reopen border negotiations, in abeyance since 1978, or to develop confidence-building measures in the Far East. Beijing also has questioned Soviet sincerity in proposing to improve relations. It continues to demand the withdrawal of Soviet forces from the Sino-Soviet border and to cite the Kampuchea and Afghanistan issues as impediments to improved relations.

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//Despite possible contacts at meetings such as the Yugoslav party congress in late June, there are no signs that the Chinese believe the USSR is prepared to make concessions on the major differences of principle that exist between the two countries. Significant movement is unlikely unless Moscow meets Beijing's principal demand to reduce substantially its military presence on the Chinese border. This Chinese approach probably will not change, even if relations with the US deteriorate.//

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KENYA: Repercussions of Coup Attempt

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President Moi is consolidating his power after the attempted coup, and he is unlikely to attend the OAU session in Tripoli. [REDACTED]

Loyal Army forces appear to have taken control of the three airbases held by the rebels. Scattered fighting continued yesterday in downtown Nairobi and at an airbase near the city, and press reports claim the colonel who led the coup is still at large. [REDACTED]

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//Rebel communiques justified the coup on the grounds of government corruption, inept economic management, and encroachments on democratic freedoms. The US Embassy reports university students supported the rebels and that some Army units may have joined them. [REDACTED]

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Comment: The rebels probably have received support from civilian groups. The corruption and favoritism that have prevailed since independence were tolerated in better economic times under Jomo Kenyatta. Under the less charismatic Moi, however, those same abuses have weighed more heavily. [REDACTED]

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Moi has relied increasingly on repressive measures to deal with unrest. He is likely to continue to do so as a result of the coup attempt. [REDACTED]

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It is now uncertain whether Moi, the current chairman of the OAU, will attend the organization's annual summit this week in Tripoli. His absence could provide a convenient excuse to postpone the controversial meeting. There is some doubt whether a quorum will be present, with radicals and moderates divided over the issue of extending membership to the Polisario Front. [REDACTED]

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CHAD: New Factional Fighting

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[redacted] fighting has resumed in the south between forces loyal to regional strongman Kamougue and troops of Libyan-backed rivals who mounted an unsuccessful armed challenge to his leadership in June. [redacted]

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[redacted] units of Habre's northern forces are reinforcing garrisons near the fighting. They will not become directly involved for now, however, so as not to worsen north-south tensions and endanger prospects for national reconciliation.//

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Comment: //The lack of united southern leadership to negotiate with threatens to undermine Habre's efforts to achieve reconciliation. The President hopes a single southern leader will emerge from the current fighting with whom he can strike a deal. He also may hope the presence nearby of reinforcements from the north will encourage the southerners to resolve their differences.//

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[redacted]

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VIETNAM - SOUTHEAST ASIA: Foreign Minister's Tour

Vietnamese Foreign Minister Thach completed his two-week swing through Singapore, Burma, Malaysia, and Thailand last weekend. Diplomatic sources report the situation in Kampuchea was the main topic at each stop. The trip revealed no substantive change in the positions on Kampuchea of either Vietnam or the countries visited. Thach was unable to convince any of his three ASEAN hosts that Vietnam's recently announced withdrawal of troops from Kampuchea was either extensive or was in fact under way. [redacted]

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Comment: Thach and his ASEAN hosts probably used the trip as an opportunity to determine how each side will argue its position when the UN General Assembly considers the Kampuchean seating question at its opening session this fall. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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